HANDLING YOUR HAMSTER

ALWAYS HANDLE YOUR HAMSTER CAREFULLY AND CONSIDERATELY, IN A CONFIDENT BUT GENTLE MANNER

- Interact with your hamster(s) every day, and handle them as often as you can, but respect their sleeping pattern.
- Hamsters should not be handled when they are resting or sleeping, unless absolutely necessary as they can find this stressful.
- It is best to get into a routine (ideally every day), and not to spend long periods at weekends interacting with hamsters when this does not happen at other times during the week.
- Make sure that you know how to handle your hamster(s) correctly, without causing them distress.
  - Hamsters should be allowed to investigate your hands in their own time
  - Hamsters should be picked up by cupping the hamster with two hands and then gently opening the hands so that the hamster is sitting on joint palms.
  - Do not hold your hamster(s) at a height as they could fall and injure themselves.

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